

REMARKS

By the present amendment, Claims 1 and 6 have been amended, and Claim 10 has been newly added. Claims 1-10 remain pending in the application, with Claims 1, 6 and 10 being independent claims. Claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Aoki (U.S. Patent No. 6,947,601 B2) in view of Liu (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0001146 A1) and newly cited Zahavi (U.S. Patent No. 7,184,574 B1). Claims 3-5, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Aoki in view of Liu, Zahavi, and Hiroaki (U.S. Patent No. 5,786,846).

Claim 1 has been amended to recite, in part, a communication terminal apparatus having a camera for transmitting a captured image to a communication terminal of a called party, and having a display for displaying an image received from the called party's communication terminal thereon so the apparatus establishes a video communication with the called party, the apparatus comprising: a transmission/reception unit for performing data transmission/reception for the video communication in a self-view mode; a tracker for detecting a user's face area from an image captured by the camera in the self-view mode; an image extractor for extracting pixels of a predetermined range covering the user's face area detected by the tracker; a distortion corrector for correcting a distortion of angle of view in the pixels extracted by the image extractor when the camera captures an image in the self-view mode; a display with a display screen for displaying an image received at the transmission/reception unit; and a controller for determining whether the apparatus is configured in the self-view mode for capturing the image, controlling the camera in the self-view mode, controlling the transmission/reception unit to transmit an image having no distortion of angle of view through the distortion corrector to the called party's communication terminal, and controlling the display to display the image at a center of the display screen when the apparatus is in the self-view mode. Independent Claim 6 has been amended in a similar manner and new independent Claim 10 is similar to amended Claim 1 where the camera and display are recited in the body of the claim.

With respect to Claims 1, 2, 6 and 7, the Examiner concedes that Aoki does not disclose a distortion corrector for correcting a distortion of angle of view in the pixels extracted by the image extractor when the camera captures an image, and does not disclose transmitting an image having no distortion of angle of view through the distortion corrector to the called party's communication terminal. The Examiner states that Liu suggests these recitations in paragraphs 10-12, 50 and 57-59, and asserts that it would have been obvious to modify Aoki with the alleged suggestions of Liu. The Examiner also concedes that Aoki and Liu do not disclose controlling the display to display the image at a center of the display screen. The Examiner states that Zahavi suggests these recitations from col. 1, line 55, through col. 2, line 3, and asserts that it would have been obvious to modify the combination of Aoki and Liu with the alleged suggestions of Zahavi.

With respect to Claims 3-5, 8 and 9, the Examiner concedes that the combination of Aoki, Liu and Zahavi does not teach that if at least one of the user's face area detected by the tracker is outside of the prescribed allowable range, the controller controls the transmission/reception unit to prevent the image having no distortion of angle of view (black screen) from being transmitted. The Examiner states that Hiroaki suggests these recitations in FIG. 14, and from col. 16, lines 53, through col. 17, line 67. The Examiner asserts that it would have been obvious to modify the combination of Aoki, Liu and Zahavi with the alleged suggestions of Hiroaki.

In FIG. 2, Aoki shows terminals 50-1 and 50-2 that exchange voice and image data through a transmission channel 60. A circuit diagram of the signal processing system for the terminals 50-1 and 50-2 is shown in FIG. 4 of Aoki that includes a variety of components to compress, code, and transmit image data between terminals 50-1 and 50-2. Aoki nowhere discusses establishing a self-view mode in the terminals 50-1 and 50-1. Liu, Zahavi, and Hiroaki fail to supplement the deficiencies of Aoki because none of them discuss establishing a self-view mode.

Accordingly, amended independent Claims 1, 6, and new Claim 10 are allowable over Aoki, Liu, Zahavi, Hiroaki, or any combination thereof.

While not conceding the patentability of the dependent claims, *per se*, Claims 2-5 and 7-9 are also allowable for at least the above reasons.

All of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-10, are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell", written over a horizontal line.

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